Standard Questions for Applicants Seeking Local Exchange Service Authority

- 1. Is your company seeking any waivers or variances of certain Commission rules and regulations in this proceeding that pertain to local exchange service? Please provide evidence as to why your company is seeking any waiver or variance. The Company is seeking waivers of Part 710 and 735.180. The Company seeks waivers of Part 710 as it would cause an undue burden to the Company to maintain separate financial statements under USOA for the State of Illinois. Waiver of Part 735.180 is requested because the Company will provide for Directory Listings through the ILEC.
- 2. Will your company comply with 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 772, Pay-Per-Call Services, including Part 772.55(a)(1), Billing and Part 772.100(d) Notices? Yes.
- 3. Will your company comply with 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 705, Preservation of Records of Telephone Utilities? Yes.
- 4. Will your company abide by 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 735, "Procedures Governing the Establishment of Credit, Billing, Deposits, Termination of Service and Issuance of Telephone Directories for Telephone Utilities in the State of Illinois"? Yes.
- 5. Who will provide customer repair service for your company? Choctaw will be responsible for customer service repair up to the point of demarcation. Customers are responsible for any repairs beyond the point of demarcation.
- 6. How many people does the company employ? 400.
- 7. Will your company meet the requirements as they pertain to the Telephone Assistance Programs imposed by Sections 13.301 and 13.301.1 of the Illinois Public Utilities Act and 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 757? Yes.
- 8. Will your company solicit, collect, and remit the voluntary contributions from its telephone subscribers to support the Telephone Assistance Programs? Yes.
- 9. Does your company plan on filing to become an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier? No.
- 10. Does the company realize that it will not be able to receive any of the federal reimbursements for the Lifeline and Link Up Programs if it is not an eligible carrier? Yes.
- 11. Will your company offer all of the waivers associated with the Universal Telephone Service Assistance Programs (UTSAP)? Yes.
- 12. Will your company abide by the regulations as prescribed in 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 755, "Telecommunications Access for Persons with Disabilities," 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 756 "Telecommunications Relay Service," and Sections 13-703 of the Illinois Public Utilities Act? Yes.

- 13. Will the company's billing system be able to distinguish between resale and facilities based service for the collection of the ITAC line charge? Yes. Choctaw's billing system will have the ability to distinguish between facilities based and resale services.
- 14. Has your company signed and return the Universal Telephone Assistance Corporation ("UTAC") and the Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation ("ITAC") to Commission staff? Yes. Copies of these Forms are attached to this Application as Attachment #9.
- 15. How does your company plan to solicit customers once it begins to provide local service? Television and radio advertising.
- 16. Has your company provided service under any other name?

 Yes. As stated in the Application, the Company was initially established as Choctaw

 Communications, L.C. and operated under that name. In addition, the Company uses
 the fictitious name Smoke Signal Communications in the states where it operates.
 - 17. Have any complaints or judgements been levied against the company? (Instate, out-of-state, or FCC). The Company has received informal complaints, but no judgments have been levied against it.

Appendix B

9-1-1 Questions for Applicants Seeking Local Exchange Service Authority

- 1. Will your company ensure that 911 traffic is handled in accordance with the 83 Illinois Administrative Code Part 725 and the Emergency Telephone System Act? Yes.
- 2. Will your company contact and establish a working relationship with the 911 systems when you begin to provide local telephone service? **Yes.**
- 3. Will your company coordinate with the incumbent LEC(s) and local 911 systems to provide transparent service for your local exchange customers? Yes.
- 4. Who will be responsible for building and maintaining the 911 database for your local exchange customers? Choctaw will rely on the underlying carrier or third party vendor to maintain the E911 database.
- 5. How often will your company update the 911 database with customer information? Daily.
- 6. Will your company's billing system have the ability to distinguish between facilities based and resale for the collection of the 911 surcharge? Yes.
- 7. Does your company have procedures for the transitioning of the 911 surcharge collection and disbursement to the local 911 system? Yes. Choctaw does have procedures for transitioning of the 911 surcharge collection and disbursement to the local 911 system.
- 8. Will your company's proposal require any network changes to any of the 911 systems?
- 9. Will your company be able to meet the requirements specified under Part 725.500(o) and 725.620(b) for the installation of call boxes? The Company will not have central offices, but will rely on the underlying carrier.
- 10. Does your company plan to file for a waiver of Part 725.500(o) and 725.620(b) in the future? Not applicable.

Financial Questions for Applicants Seeking Local Exchange Service Authority

- 1. (Answer if requesting waiver of Part 710) What circumstances warrant a departure from the prescribed Uniform System of Accounts ("USOA")? The company does not use the USOA method of accounting for any other states. The Company prepares its books in accordance with GAAP, and to use a separate accounting method for the State of Illinois would cause an undue burden upon the Company.
- 2. Will records be maintained in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP")? Yes.
- 3. Will applicants accounting system provide an equivalent portrayal of operating results and financial condition as the USOA? Yes.
- 4. Will applicants accounting procedures maintain or improve uniformity in substantive results as among similar telecommunications companies? **Yes.**
- 5. Will applicant maintain its records in sufficient detail to facilitate the calculation of all applicable taxes? Yes.
- 6. Does the accounting system currently in use by applicant provide sufficiently detailed data for the preparation of Illinois Gross Receipts Tax returns? What specific accounts or sub-accounts provide this data? Yes. The company uses its financial statements to prepare Illinois Gross Receipts Tax returns under the authority obtained as Choctaw Communications, L.C.
- 7. If a waiver of Part 710 is granted, will applicant provide annual audited statements for all periods subsequent to granting of the waiver? As a private company, the Applicant does not maintain audited financial statements. Such a requirement would present an unnecessary administrative and financial burden on the Company. However, if the Company is required to provide audited statements by the Commission it will comply.
- 8. Does applicant agree that the requested waiver of Part 710 will not excuse it from compliance with future Commission rules or amendments to Part 710 otherwise applicable to the Company? Yes.
- 9. Please attached a copy of applicant's chart of accounts. Attachment #8A.

Prepaid Service Questions for Applicants Seeking Local Exchange Service Authority

- Will customers have the ability to sign up with any long distance company they choose?
 Yes.
- 2. Will customers have the ability to use dial around long distance companies? **Yes.**
- 3. Does the applicant have interexchange authority in Illinois? If yes, please provide the docket number. The Company's predecessor Choctaw Communications, L.C. was granted interexchange authority in Docket No. 98-0628. The Applicant is requesting interexchange authority in this application.
- 4. Will customers have access to the Illinois Relay Service? Yes.
- 5. Will customers be able to make 1-800 calls for free? Yes.
- 6. Will the Company offer operator services? No.
- 7. Please describe how applicant plans to collect the monthly fee to be paid in advance. Monthly bills are sent to the customer in advance of the service period for which payment is requested. Payment can also be made at one of the Company's designated payment centers located within the state.
- 8. Will customers' monthly bills show a breakdown of services, features, surcharges, taxes, etc.? Yes. All customer bills will show a breakdown of services, features, surcharges, taxes, etc.
- 9. Will customers pay an installation fee? If yes, will payment arrangements be offered for the installation fee? Yes. An installation fee or one-time activation fee is charged to customers. The Company does allow this installation fee to be made in 5 installments.
- 10. Will telephone service be in the Company's name or the customer's name. If in the Company's name how will information appear in data bases, such as 9-1-1, directory assistance, etc.? Prepaid services will be in the name of the customer.
- 11. Will applicant offer prepaid service as a monthly service or as a usage service? **Prepaid service is offered as a monthly service.**
- 12. Will applicant provide a warning when the remaining value of service is about to cease? Not applicable as the Company does not limit prepaid service.
- 13. Is the customer given more than one notice of the remaining value of service? **Not applicable.**
- 14. How much advance notice is given to the customer of the remaining value of service? **Not applicable.**
- 15. If the customer is in the middle of a call will they be disconnected when the remaining value of service has expired? Not applicable.

- 16. Has the customer been made aware of potentially being disconnected during a call when the remaining value of service expires? **Not applicable.**
- 17. When does the timing of a call start? Not applicable.
- 18. If the person called does not answer, is any time deducted from the customer's account? **Not applicable.**
- 19. Will there be any other instances in which the Company would disconnect a customer, other than running out of prepaid time? Customers will be disconnected for non-payment.
- 20. When a customer runs out of time is their phone immediately disconnected or on suspension? (Will they still be able to receive calls?) **Not applicable.**
- 21. Are applicant's services available to TTY callers? Yes.
- 22. How will the applicant handle a complaint from a customer who disputes the amount of time used or remaining? Not applicable since time is not limited.
- 23. The Public Utilities Act requires a local calling area that has no time or duration charges. How will the Company define each customer's untimed local calling area? The same as that of the underlying carrier.